

March 18, 2005

## News Release

## ICE DEPORTS ST. PAUL MAN WHO RAPED 4-YEAR-OLD

BLOOMINGTON, Minn.—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention and removal officers deported an illegal alien Wednesday who had been convicted of raping a 4-year-old boy in the basement of Mercado Central on Lake St. in Minneapolis.

"A child's innocence was destroyed by this criminal," said Special Agent-in-Charge Mark Cangemi of the ICE office in Bloomington. "We will not tolerate the presence of illegal aliens who prey on children. They will be sought out, arrested and deported." Cangemi oversees the enforcement of immigration and customs laws in a five-state area that includes Minnesota.



Julio Cesar Rabago-Magana, 20, a citizen of Mexico, entered the United States as visitor in August 2000, but remained in the country illegally after his visa expired six months later.

Rabago-Magana asked a boy to help him carry some boxes to a basement storeroom at Mercado Central, located at 1515 Lake St. in Minneapolis Sept. 6, 2002, according to court documents. The boy agreed, but when they entered the room, Rabago locked the door and sexually assaulted the victim, who was 4 years old at the time.

When the victim's parents found the boy shortly thereafter. They approached an off-duty Minneapolis police officer who was working security in the shopping center and asked for help. The officer quickly arrested Rabago-Magana.

Rabago-Magana pleaded guilty in Hennepin County Juvenile Court Oct. 23, 2002 to first-degree criminal sexual conduct for engaging in sexual penetration with the victim. He was given a "blended" juvenile-adult sentence that included sex offender treatment, a requirement to register as a sex offender, and a stayed 144-month adult prison sentence.

Page 1 of 2 www.ice.gov

ICE special agents arrested Rabago-Magana at his St. Paul home March 3. A federal immigration judge ordered him removed March 10 and ICE detention and removal officers deported him to Mexico six days later.

Rabago-Magana's removal is part of Operation Predator, a nationwide ICE initiative to protect children from sexual predators, including those who travel overseas for sex with minors, Internet child pornographers, criminal alien sex offenders, and child sex traffickers. Since Operation Predator was launched in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 5,100 individuals, including 147 in Minnesota.

ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock.

Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <a href="http://www.cybertipline.com">http://www.cybertipline.com</a>.

## # ICE #

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.